

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

16  
9

HEALTH OFFICER,

OF THE NUMBER OF

DEATHS, AND THEIR CAUSES,

IN THE

CITY OF BROOKLYN,

DURING THE YEAR 1851.

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BROOKLYN:

E. B. SPOONER, PRINTER, FRANKLIN BUILDINGS, CORNER FULTON AND ORANGE STS.

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1852.

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BOARD OF HEALTH OFFICE, }  
BROOKLYN, JANUARY 12, 1852. }

TO THE HONORABLE THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL:

GENTLEMEN: In compliance with the law, and usage of this department, I beg leave to lay before your honorable body, the annual statement of mortality in this city.

In this report will be found the number of deaths which have occurred during the year 1851; with the sex, age, and birth-place of the deceased.

I have also prepared a more particular statement of the medical statistics of the city, in tabular forms, comprising the diseases and other causes terminating in death; with the sexes and ages of each month seperately. Two additional tables are furnished, the one exhibiting the causes of deaths for each month in the year; the other the sexes and ages for the same period, accompanied with such remarks and suggestions as naturally presented themselves on the subject, or might in any manner be conducive to the interests and public welfare of our city, in a medical point of view.

This report is respectfully submitted to the order of your honorable body, either for reference or publication, as may by your judgement be deemed most advisable.

With respect,

M. WENDELL,  
HEALTH OFFICER.

Statement of the total number of Deaths during the year 1851.

	Males.	Females.	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Birth-Places.	Total.
January,	-	-	97	78	58	117	175
February,	-	-	102	102	63	141	204
March,	-	-	98	87	76	109	185
April,	-	-	103	105	67	141	208
May,	-	-	98	96	76	118	194
June,	-	-	107	99	70	136	206
July,	-	-	162	128	79	211	290
August,	-	-	155	144	65	234	299
September,	-	-	140	122	78	184	262
October,	-	-	153	155	89	219	308
November,	-	-	144	118	82	180	262
December,	-	-	137	128	92	173	265
	1,496	1,353	895	1,963	2,858		
							2,858 Total.

The above are classed, *Adults* 21 years and over, and *Children* under that period.

Of the deaths of natives of the United States, 45 were *Colored*.

*Deaths by causes other than Disease; for 1851.*

		Total.
Burned,	- - - - -	14
Casualties,	- - - - -	25
Killed,	- - - - -	3
Drowned,	- - - - -	19
Malformed,	- - - - -	18
Premature Births,	- - - - -	43
Still Born,	- - - - -	116
Suicide,	- - - - -	3
Exposure,	- - - - -	2
Frozen,	- - - - -	2
		245
Total of deaths,	- - - - -	2,858
Deduct the above,	- - - - -	245

2,613, leaves this amount as the actual deaths by disease.

Presuming the population of the city to be 110,000, divided by the above, gives the ratio of one death in 42 and a fraction; which will compare most favorably with any city in the Union.

## REPORT OF DEATHS DURING

## 1851—JANUARY.

DISEASES.	TOTAL	Males.	Females.	One year and under.	1—2
Abscess Lumbar.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....
Apoplexy .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Bronchitis .....	3	.....	3	1	.....
Burned.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Cancer, Breast.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
" Stomach.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Casualty .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Concussion, Brain.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Congestion, Brain.....	3	1	2	2	.....
" Lungs.....	5	4	1	3	.....
Consumption .....	19	8	11	.....	.....
Convulsions.....	10	7	3	9	1
Croup.....	1	1	.....	1	.....
Debility .....	1	.....	1	1	.....
Delirium Tremens.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....
Diarrhea.....	1	1	.....	.....	1
Dropsy.....	4	1	3	.....	.....
" Chest.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
" Head.....	13	10	3	6	5
Drowned .....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Dysentery .....	2	1	1	.....	.....
Erysipelas.....	1	.....	1	1	.....
Fever, Congestive.....	1	1	.....	.....	1
" Puerperal.....	2	.....	2	.....	.....
" Remittent.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
" Scarlet .....	9	7	2	.....	2
" Typhoid.....	3	1	2	.....	.....
" Typhus .....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Heart Disease.....	3	2	1	.....	.....
Hooping Cough.....	6	2	4	5	1
Inflammation, Brain .....	3	1	2	.....	3
" Bowels.....	8	3	5	.....	1
" Liver .....	2	2	.....	.....	.....
" Lungs.....	16	6	10	5	4
Influenza .....	1	1	.....	.....	1
Jaundice.....	1	.....	1	1	.....
Malformation.....	1	1	.....	1	.....
Marasmus .....	10	6	4	4	6
Measles .....	9	4	5	2	5
Mumps.....	1	1	.....	1	.....
Old Age .....	2	1	1	.....	.....
Palsy .....	2	2	.....	.....	.....
Premature Birth.....	2	2	.....	2	.....
Small-Pox.....	4	2	2	1	.....
Still-Born.....	8	5	3	8	.....
Ulcer, Intestines.....	1	1	.....	.....	1
" Throat.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Unknown.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Worms.....	1	1	.....	1	.....
Total.....	175	97	78	54	32

THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 1851.

## REPORT OF DEATHS DURING

1851—FEBRUARY.

DISEASES.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	One year and under.	1—2	
					1	2
Apoplexy.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Asthma.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bronchitis.....	3	1	2	1	2	.....
Burned.....	4	1	3	.....	.....	.....
Cancer, stomach.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Casualty.....	1	.....	1	1	.....	.....
Cholera, Infantum.....	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Concussion Brain.....	8	6	2	3	2	.....
Congestion do.....	7	4	3	4	1	.....
" Lungs.....	7	4	3	4	1	.....
Consumption.....	29	11	17	.....	1	.....
Convulsions.....	12	8	4	7	4	.....
Croup.....	6	4	2	4	.....	.....
Debility.....	2	1	1	1	.....	.....
Diarrhoea.....	4	2	2	.....	.....	.....
Dropsy.....	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....
" Chest.....	16	6	10	10	.....	.....
" Head.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
" Heart.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dysentery.....	4	1	3	2	.....	.....
Fever.....	1	.....	1	.....	1	.....
" Congestive.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
" Nervous.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
" Puerperal.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
" Remittent.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
" Scarlet.....	13	7	6	2	3	.....
" Typhoid.....	3	2	1	.....	1	.....
" Typhus.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Heart disease.....	3	2	1	1	1	.....
Hooping cough.....	4	1	3	.....	1	.....
Inflammation Brain.....	5	2	3	.....	2	.....
" Bowels.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
" Liver.....	18	11	7	6	3	.....
" Lungs.....	3	1	2	.....	1	.....
" Stomach.....	4	.....	4	.....	.....	.....
" Womb.....	4	.....	4	.....	.....	.....
Influenza.....	1	.....	1	1	1	.....
Marasmus.....	5	3	2	3	1	1
Measles.....	6	2	4	.....	5	.....
Mortification.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Old Age.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Palsy.....	2	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Pleurisy.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Premature Birth.....	3	1	2	3	1	1
Small Pox.....	5	3	2	1	6	.....
Still-born.....	6	5	1	1	1	.....
Teething.....	1	.....	1	.....	1	.....
Ulcers, throat.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Varioloid.....	3	1	2	.....	.....	.....
Congestion Liver.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	204	102	102	61	31	.....

## THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1851.

	2—5	5—10	10—20	20—30	30—40	40—50	50—60	60—70	70—80	80—90	90—100	Age Unknown.
2					1			1				
2								1				
1	2	4	4	11	2	1			2			
1				1								
2					1							
4	2							1		1		
	1				1							
	1											
	1			1								
8		2		2		1	1					
		1			1							
2			2			1	1					
	2				1							
2	1	1	3		2	1						
	1		3		1							
1			1			1					1	
				2	1							
			1	1	1							
				1								
25	11	13	19	25	7	1	5	5			1	

## REPORT OF DEATHS DURING

1851—MARCH.

DISEASES.	TOTAL	Males.	Females	One year and under	1--2
Apoplexy .....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Bronchitis .....	3	1	2	.....	1
Burned .....	1	1	.....	.....	1
Cancer .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Congestion of Brain .....	6	3	3	2	.....
" Lungs .....	5	4	1	2	.....
Consumption .....	30	11	19	1	.....
Convulsions .....	11	6	5	6	4
Croup .....	11	6	5	3	3
Convulsions, Puerperal .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Delirium Tremens .....	2	2	.....	.....	.....
Diarrhœa .....	2	2	.....	.....	.....
Drop sy .....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
" Abdomen .....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
" Chest .....	4	1	3	.....	.....
" Head .....	11	8	3	.....	7
Drowned .....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Dysentery .....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Emphysema L .....	1	.....	1	1	.....
Erysipelas .....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Fever, Congestive .....	3	2	1	.....	1
" Puerperal .....	6	.....	6	.....	.....
" Remittent .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
" Scarlet .....	9	6	3	.....	3
" Typhoid .....	2	2	.....	.....	.....
" Typhus .....	3	2	1	.....	.....
Heart Disease .....	3	2	1	.....	.....
Hemorrhage, Bowels .....	1	1	.....	1	.....
" Lungs .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
" Uterine .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Inflammation, Brain .....	3	.....	3	1	.....
" Bowels .....	3	1	2	2	.....
" Heart .....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
" Liver .....	2	1	1	1	.....
" Lungs .....	10	5	5	6	.....
" Stomach .....	3	.....	3	.....	1
" Womb .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Influenza .....	2	2	.....	2	.....
Marasmus .....	9	8	1	4	4
Measles .....	5	4	1	1	3
Old Age .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Palsy .....	3	2	1	.....	.....
Premature Birth .....	5	2	3	5	.....
Scirrhous .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Scrofula .....	1	.....	1	1	.....
Small-pox .....	3	2	1	.....	.....
Still-born .....	5	4	1	5	.....
Trismus .....	1	.....	1	1	.....
Unknown .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Total .....	185	98	87	45	28

THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1851.

## REPORT OF DEATHS DURING

1851—APRIL.

DISEASES.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	One year and Under.	1-2
Abcess .....	2		2		
" Lumbar .....	1		1		
" Liver .....	1		1	1	
Bronchitis.....	3	1	2	1	1
Casualty.....	1	1			
Cholera Infantum.....	1	1			1
Colic .....	1		1		
Congestion, Brain .....	5	3	2	1	2
" Lungs.....	6	3	3	2	
Consumption .....	25	12	13		2
Convulsions.....	17	8	9	6	5
Croup .....	3	3		2	1
Cyania .....	1	1		1	
Debility .....	1	1		1	
Diarrhoea .....	5	1	4	2	1
Dropsy .....	2	2			
" Chest .....	2	1	1	1	1
" Head .....	13	8	5	5	
Aneurism .....	1	1			
Drowned .....	1	1			
Dysentery .....	7	2	5	2	
Epilepsy.....	1		1		
Erysipelas .....	7	4	3	4	
Fever .....	1		1		
" Billious .....	1		1		
" Puerperal .....	3		3		
" Remittent .....	1				
" Scarlet .....	16	7	9	3	5
" Tybroid .....	5	3	2		
" Typhus .....	3	2	1		
Heart Disease .....	3	3			
Hemorrhage, Stomach .....	1	1			
Inflammation of the Bowels .....	4	2	2	1	
" Liver .....	3	2	1		
" Lungs .....	12	3	9	8	1
Influenza .....	4	2	2	1	1
Lepra Arab.....	1		1		
Marasmus .....	11	5	6	4	3
Measles .....	3	1	2	1	1
Old Age .....	4	2	2		
Palsy .....	4	2	2		
Premature Birth .....	2	2		2	
Scrofula .....	3	3		2	
Sina'l-Pox .....	6	3	3		
Sprue .....	1		1	1	1
Still-born .....	5	3	2	5	
Tumor, Abdomen .....	1		1		
Purpura .....	1	1		1	
Tetanus .....	1		1		
Total .....	208	103	105	59	26

## THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1851.

	2-5	5-10	10-20	20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	90-100	100 and Upwards.
	1	1						1				
1		1										
	1											
1												
2	1	3	2	6	3	1	3	4	1	1		
5	1											
1					1							
6	1		1									
			1									
2	1				1	2						
					1							
					1	1						
1								1				
					3							
6	3					1						
1			2	1	1		1					
		1	1	1		1		1				
						1						
1			1		1			1				
			1		1		1	1				
1			1		1							
2												
3	1							1		3		1
	1									3		
						1						
3	1	1	1	1								
1								1				
36	13	8	21	11	11	10	5	8		11		

1851—MAY.

	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	One year and Under.	1-2
Abcess .....	1	1	1	...	1
Asphyxia.....	1	1	1	1	1
Asthma.....	1	1	1	1	1
Bronchitis.....	3	2	1	...	...
Cancer, Stomach .....	1	1	1	...	...
" Womb.....	1	1	1	...	...
Casualty.....	1	1	1	...	...
Cholera Infantum.....	3	2	1	2	1
" Morbus.....	1	1	1	...	...
Colic.....	1	1	1	...	...
Congestion, Brain .....	5	2	3	1	1
" Lungs.....	7	5	2	3	...
Consumption.....	24	10	14	...	...
Convulsions.....	11	4	7	6	1
Croup.....	1	1	1	1	1
Cynia.....	1	1	1	1	1
Debility .....	4	2	2	2	...
Delirium Tremens.....	3	3	3	...	...
Diarrhoea .....	2	1	2	...	...
Dropsy.....	1	1	1	...	...
" Abdomen.....	1	1	1	...	...
" Chest.....	3	1	2	...	...
" Head.....	14	6	8	6	4
Drowned .....	6	5	1	...	...
Dysentery.....	1	1	1	1	1
Erysipelas.....	3	1	2	...	...
Fever .....	1	1	1	...	...
Fever, Puerperal.....	4	1	4	...	...
" Remittent.....	2	1	1	...	...
" Scarlet.....	7	3	4	1	1
" Typhoid.....	2	1	1	...	...
" Typhus.....	6	3	3	...	...
Heart Disease.....	2	1	2	...	...
Hooping Cough .....	3	2	1	1	1
Hemorrhage, Lungs .....	1	1	1	...	...
" Uterine.....	2	1	2	...	...
Inflammation of the Brain.....	4	2	2	2	...
" Bladder.....	1	1	1	1	1
" Bowels.....	3	1	2	...	...
" Heart.....	1	1	1	...	...
" Liver.....	1	1	1	...	...
" Lungs.....	9	5	4	5	...
" Stomach.....	1	1	1	...	...
Influenza .....	3	2	1	2	...
Intussception.....	1	1	1	...	...
Marasmus.....	7	4	3	4	1
Measles.....	5	2	5	2	...
Old Age.....	3	2	1	...	...
Pleurisy.....	1	1	1	...	...
Premature Birth.....	1	1	1	1	1
Scirrhous, Uterine.....	1	1	1	...	...
Scrofula .....	1	1	1	...	1
Small-pox.....	3	2	1	1	1
Sprue .....	2	1	1	1	1
Still-Born .....	11	7	4	11	...
Teething .....	1	1	1	1	1
Tetanus .....	1	1	1	1	1
Killed by Husband .....	1	1	1	...	...
Suicide by Drowning .....	1	1	1	...	...
Total.....	194	98	96	59	12

	2-5	5-10	10-20	20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	90-100	100 an. Upwards
1				1			1		1			
1		1			1							
2						1	1					
3		3	10		4		2					
1	1	2										
				1		1						
					2							
					1							
1	1	1	1									
2	2		1	1	3		1					
			1	1								
				1	1							
				3	2							
2	4			2								
1	1	1			1	2						
1		1						1				
		3		1		1						
1			1			1						
			1									
1					2		1					
1							1					
1				1								
2	2	1							3			
								1				
1	1											
					1							
23	11	14	27	22	12	5	5	4				

## REPORT OF DEATHS DURING

1851—JUNE.

DISEASES.	TOTAL	Males.	Females.	One year and under.	1-2
Apoplexy.....	2	4	4	1	2
Bronchitis.....	2	2	1	1	1
Cancer.....	1	1	1	1	1
Casualty.....	2	2	1	1	1
Cholera.....	1	1	1	1	1
Cholera, Infantum.....	9	4	5	7	2
Child Birth.....	1	1	1	1	1
Congestion, Brain.....	7	2	1	3	2
" Lungs.....	3	2	1	1	1
Consumption.....	25	10	15	1	1
Convulsions.....	23	13	10	14	3
Croup.....	4	3	1	1	1
Congestion, Bowels.....	1	1	1	1	1
Debility.....	2	1	1	1	1
Diarrhea.....	5	3	2	3	1
Dropsy.....	1	1	1	1	1
" Chest.....	1	1	1	1	1
" Head.....	10	6	4	6	1
Drowned.....	3	3	1	1	1
Dysentery.....	8	4	4	4	1
Epilepsy.....	1	1	1	1	2
Erysipelas.....	1	1	1	1	1
Fever, Congestive.....	1	1	1	1	1
" Puerperal.....	2	1	2	1	3
" Scarlet.....	12	6	6	1	3
" Typhoid.....	6	3	3	3	3
" Typhus.....	5	3	2	2	1
Heart disease.....	2	2	1	1	1
Hemorrhage, Lungs.....	3	1	2	1	1
Inflammation.....	1	1	1	1	1
Inflammation Brain.....	2	1	2	1	1
" Bowels.....	1	1	1	1	1
" Kidneys.....	2	2	1	1	1
" Lungs.....	9	8	1	5	1
Killed.....	2	1	2	1	1
Marasmus.....	9	5	4	5	2
Measles.....	2	1	2	1	1
Myelitis.....	1	1	1	1	1
Mumps.....	1	1	1	1	1
Old Age.....	3	1	2	1	1
Palsy.....	1	1	1	1	1
Premature Birth.....	1	1	1	1	1
Rickets.....	1	1	1	1	1
Scrofula.....	2	2	1	1	1
Small Pox.....	2	1	2	1	1
Sprue.....	1	1	1	1	1
Still-born.....	10	6	4	10	10
Teething.....	6	1	5	4	2
Total.....	204	107	99	70	24

THE MONTH OF JUNE, 1851.

## 1851—JULY.

	TOTAL	Males.	Females.	One year and under.	1—2
Abscess, Lumbar.....	1	.....	1	.....	
Apoplexy .....	2	1	1	.....	
Asphyxia.....	2	2	.....	2	
Burned.....	1	.....	1	1	
Cancer, Recti.....	1	.....	1	.....	
" Stomach.....	1	.....	1	.....	
" Womb.....	1	.....	1	.....	
Cholera, Infantum.....	49	30	19	38	10
Cholera, Morbus.....	2	1	1	1	
Colic, Bilious.....	1	.....	1	.....	
Congestion, Brain.....	13	8	5	2	1
" Lungs.....	1	.....	1	.....	
Consumption.....	19	6	13	1	2
Convulsions.....	26	19	7	14	7
Croup.....	1	1	.....	1	
Concussion, Brain.....	1	1	.....	.....	
Debility.....	4	3	1	3	
Delirium Tremens.....	2	2	.....	.....	
Diarrhœa.....	14	9	5	8	3
Dropsy.....	3	1	2	.....	
" Head.....	12	10	2	8	3
Dysentery.....	9	4	5	2	3
Emphsema L.....	1	1	.....	.....	
Erysipelas.....	4	2	2	2	
Fever.....	4	2	2	.....	
" Congestive.....	1	.....	1	.....	
" Hectic.....	1	1	.....	.....	
" Puerperal.....	2	.....	2	.....	
" Scarlet.....	8	3	5	1	2
" Typhoid.....	2	1	1	.....	
Gravel.....	1	1	.....	1	
Heart Disease.....	4	1	3	.....	
Hooping Cough.....	3	1	2	3	
Hemorrhage, Bowels.....	1	.....	1	.....	
" Lungs.....	1	1	.....	.....	
" Womb.....	2	.....	2	.....	
Inflammation, Brain.....	3	2	1	2	
" Bowels.....	14	9	5	8	1
" Heart.....	2	1	1	.....	
" Lungs.....	6	6	.....	5	1
" Stomach.....	3	1	2	.....	
" Throat.....	1	1	.....	.....	
" Womb.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Influenza.....	2	1	1	1	
Malformation.....	2	2	.....	2	
Marasinus.....	18	7	11	15	
Measles.....	2	.....	2	.....	2
Morification.....	1	.....	1	.....	
Old Age.....	3	.....	3	.....	
Pleurisy.....	1	1	.....	.....	
Premature Birth.....	2	2	.....	2	
Small-Pox.....	7	5	2	3	
Still-Born.....	8	4	4	8	
Suicide (d owing).....	1	1	.....	.....	
Teething.....	4	2	2	1	3
Sun Stroke.....	1	1	.....	.....	
Ulcer, Intestines.....	4	1	3	1	
Worms.....	1	1	.....	.....	
Casualty.....	1	1	.....	.....	
Myelitis.....	1	1	.....	.....	
Inflammation.....	1	.....	1	1	
Total.....	290	162	128	137	39



## REPORT OF DEATHS DURING

## 1851—AUGUST.

DISEASES.	TOTAL	Males.	Females	One year and under	1-2
Apoplexy	2	1	1		
Atrophy	1	1			
Bronchitis	4	3	1		1
Burned	1	1			1
Cancer	1	1			
Cancer Stomach	1		1		
Casualty	4	3	1		
Cholera, Infant.	39	19	20	25	13
" Morbus	2	1	1		
Colic	1	1		1	
Congestion of Brain	10	7	3	2	3
" Lungs	1		1		
Consumption	24	9	15	1	2
Convulsions	13	7	6	7	4
Concussion of Brain	1	1			
Debility	1		1	1	
Delirium Tremens	2	2			
Diabetes	1	1			
Diarrhoea	16	11	5	7	8
Drop sy	3		3		
" Head	11	4	7	3	4
Drowned	3	1	2		
Dysentery	27	16	11	6	8
Epilepsy	1		1		
Fever,	1	1			
" Congestive	2		2		
" Puerperal	1		1		
" Remittent	1	1			
" Scarlet	14	8	6	1	2
" Typhus	3	1	2		
Hemorrhage Throat	1	1			
Inflammation, Brain	5	4	1	1	1
" Bowels	10	8	2	5	2
" Lungs	2	2			1
" Stomach	1	1			
" Womb	1		1		
Intemperance	2		2		
Jaundice	1	1		1	
Malformation	4	4		4	
Marasmus	23	12	16	13	11
Mortification	1	1			
Old Age	3		3		
Pleurisy	1	1			
Premature Birth	5		5	5	
Purpura	1		1		
Rupture	1		1		
Scrofula	1		1		
Small-pox	8	3	5		2
Sprue	1		1		1
Still-born	14	5	9	14	
Suppression Urine	1		1		
Teething	8	3	5	5	3
Ulcers Throat	3	3			1
Varioloid	1		1		1
Palsy	1		1		
Measles	2	1	1		1
Total	299	155	144	102	70

THE MONTH OF AUGUST. 1851.

	2-5	5-10	10-20	20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	90-100	100 and Upwards
1								1	1			
1	1			1	1			1	1			
1	1		1									
2		4	6	6		2			1			
1	1	1										
3					2							
1					1							
3	1	2	1	1		1		1				
3	2		1	1		3		1	1	2		
		1	1				1					
			1									
8	3											
1			1									
3				2	1							
				1	1							
1			1		1				1	1	1	
				1								
4		1										
			1									
			1				1					
3	1			1	1							
	1				1			1				
35	13	14	18	19	12	8	5	2		1		

## REPORT OF DEATHS DURING

1851—SEPTEMBER.		TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	One year and Under	1-2
	DISEASES.					
Abcess, trach.		1		1		1
" Leg.		1		1		
Asthma.		1	1			
Bronchitis.		1	1			
Cancer, Stomach.		2		2		
Casualty.		5	5		1	
Cholera.		1	1			
Cholera Infantum.		15	6	9	12	2
" Morbus.		3	1	2	2	
Congestion, Brain.		6	5	1	2	1
" Lungs.		4	3	1	1	1
Consumption.		15	6	9		
Convulsions.		18	6	12	8	4
Croup.		6	5	1	4	2
Diarrhoea.		20	12	8	11	5
Dropsey.		2	1	1		1
" Chest.		2	1	1		
" Head.		13	9	4	7	4
Drowned.		3	3			
Dysentery.		23	15	8	5	8
Erysipelas.		2	1	1	2	
Fever, Bilious.		3	1	2		
" Congestive.		4	3	1		
" Nervous.		2	1	1		
" Remittent.		1		1		
" Scarlet.		11	8	3	2	2
" Typhoid.		5	3	2		
" Typhus.		5		5		
Heart Disease.		1		1		
Hooping Cough.		2	1	1	1	1
Hemorrhage, Stomach.		1	1			
" Uterine.		1		1		
Inflammation of the Brain.		1	1			
" Bowels.		9	3	6	2	2
" Liver.		4	2	2		
" Lungs.		4	2	2	3	1
" Stomach.		1		1		
Influenza.		1	1		1	
Intemperance.		2	2			
Malformation.		1		1	1	
Jaundice.		1	1			
Marasmus.		19	7	12	9	10
Measles.		1		1		1
Mortification.		1		1		
Old Age.		3	1	2		
Palsy.		1	1			
Premature Birth.		4	2	2	4	
Scirrhus, Stomach.		1		1		
Scrofula.		1	1			
Small-pox.		4	3	1	2	1
Sprue.		2	1	1	1	1
Still-Born.		13	6	7	13	
Strangulated, Gut.		1	1			
Sun Stroke.		2	2			
Teething.		6	3	3	3	3
Unknown.		1		1	1	
Apoplexy.		1		1		
Total.		263	140	125	95	51

## THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1851.

	2-5	5-10	10-20	20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	90-100	100 and Upwards.
1							1	1				
1	1				2	1						
1				1	1							
1		1	1	1	2							
1	4	1	1	4	4	2	1		1	1		
1												
1				2						1		
2				1			1					
1	3				3				2	1		
1			1	1	2							
1			1	1		1						
5	1	2	1	1	1		1					
			1									
1						1						
1							1					
1								1				
									1			
										1		
											1	
												1
19	12	7	21	25	11	6	6	6	5	4		

## REPORT OF DEATHS DURING

## 1851—OCTOBER.

DISEASES.	TOTAL	Males.	Females.	One year and under.	1-2
Abcess Lumb.	1	1	1		
Apoplexy	4	4	1	1	
Asphyxia	1	1	1	1	
Atrophy	1	1	1	1	
Bronchitis	8	5	3	2	1
Casualty	4	4	1	1	
Cholera, Infantum	7	2	5	6	1
" Morb.	2	1	1	1	
Congestion, Brain	8	5	3	3	1
" Lungs	3	1	2	2	
Consumption	27	8	19		
Convulsions	14	9	5	7	4
Croup	13	7	6	4	4
Cyania	1	1	1	1	
Debility	3	2	1	1	
Diarrhœa	8	4	4	2	4
Dropsy	1	1	1		
" Abdomen	2	1	1		
" Chest	2	1	1		
" Head	14	7	7	4	
Dysentery	16	8	8	3	4
Erysipelas	4	2	2	3	
Fever	1	1	1		
" Bilious	1	1	1	1	
" Congestive	1	1	1		
" Puerperal	1	1	1		
" Scarlet	25	10	15	3	6
" Typhoid	3	3	3		
" Typhus	7	4	3		
Heart disease	4	3	1		
Hooping Cough	2	2	2		1
Hemorrhage, Lungs	1	1	1		
Hemorrhage Uterine	1	1	2		2
Inflammation Brain	3	1	2		
" Bowels	10	8	2	3	5
" Liver	2	2	1		
" Lungs	17	11	6	6	4
" Stomach	2	2	2		
Insanity	1	1	1		
Influenza	1	1	1		1
Jaundice	1	1	1		
Malformation	4	3	1	4	
Myelitis	2	2	1		
Mortification	1	1	1	1	
Marasmus	24	12	12	12	9
Old Age	6	1	5		
Palsy	5	3	2		
Premature Birth	6	4	2	6	
Small Pox	10	1	9	3	1
Still-born	12	7	5	12	
Teething	6	1	5	2	4
Variolit.	2	2	2		
Ulcers Intestines	2	1	1		
Total	308	153	155	94	53

THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1851.

## REPORT OF DEATHS DURING

1851—NOVEMBER.

DISEASES.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	One Year and Under.	1-2
Asthma .....	1	1	1	1	
Atrophy .....	1	1	1	1	
Bronchitis .....	2	2	2		2
Burned .....	5	5			
Casualty .....	2	2			
Cholera Infantum .....	3	2	1	1	1
Congestion, Brain .....	6	3	3	2	
" Lungs .....	6	2	4	1	2
Consumption .....	24	14	10		
Convulsions .....	13	6	7	4	4
Croup .....	10	3	7	2	2
Cyania .....	2	2		2	
Debility .....	2	1	1		
Delirium Tremens .....	3	3			
Diarrhoea .....	6	4	2		3
Dropsy .....	3	2	1		
" Abdomen .....	1	1			
" Chest .....	3	2	1	1	1
" Head .....	7	3	4		2
Dysentery .....	12	4	8	2	2
Epilepsy .....	2	1	1		1
Erysipelas .....	1	1			
Fever .....	1		1		
" Bilious .....	1	1	1		
" Congestive .....	3	1	2		
" Intermittent .....	2	2			
" Puerperal .....	1		1		
" Scarlet .....	34	20	14	1	7
" Typhoid .....	9	4	5		
" Typhus .....	3	2	1		
Heart Disease .....	1		1		
Hemorrhage .....	1	1			
" Lungs .....	2	2			
" Stomach .....	1	1			
Inflammation of the Brain .....	1	1			
" Bowels .....	11	4	7	3	2
" Kidneys .....	1	1			
" Lungs .....	12	6	6	4	2
" Stomach .....	5	2	3	1	1
Influenza .....	2	1	1		1
Intemperance .....	1	1			
Malformation .....	4	1	3	4	
Marasmus .....	11	9	2	3	5
Old Age .....	3	1	2		
Palsy .....	2	1	1		
Purpura .....	1		1		
Premature Birth .....	5	4	1	5	
Serofula .....	2	2		1	
Small-Pox .....	6	2	4	3	1
Still-born .....	17	9	8	17	
Teething .....	2	1	1	1	1
Ulcers .....	1		1		1
Worms .....	1	1			
Total .....	262	144	118	59	41

## THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1851.

	2—5	5—10	10—20	20—30	30—40	40—50	50—60	60—70	70—80	80—90	90—100	100 and Upwards
1		4							1			
1		1		1	2							
2	1	3	1	7	1	1	2	1				
4			1									
3	1	2										
					3					2		
1				1		1		2				
				1								
1												
4		1										
1	1		2	2			1	1				
			1									
1												
				1								
				1								
16	7	3										
1		1	3	1			3					
1		1				1						
										1		
1										1		
				1						1		
				1								
1					1							
				1	1	2	1					
				1								
1		1		2		2						
		1		1		1						
1								1				
								1				
2					1					1	1	
					1							2
1	1									1		
		1										
44	19	17	19	20	16	12	4	9			2	

## REPORT OF DEATHS DURING

## 1851—DECEMBER.

DISEASES.	TOTAL	Males.	Females	One year and under	1-2
Apoplexy .....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Bronchitis .....	4	1	3	2	.....
Burned .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Cancer .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Cancer Stomach .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Casualty .....	3	3	.....	.....	.....
Colic, Biliary .....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Congestion of Brain .....	9	4	5	3	1
" Lungs .....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Consumption .....	31	18	13	.....	.....
Convulsions .....	13	7	6	10	2
Croup .....	11	8	3	1	5
Congestion, Liver .....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Debility .....	4	2	2	3	.....
Diarrhoea .....	2	2	.....	2	.....
Dropsey .....	3	2	1	.....	.....
" Abdomen .....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
" Chest .....	2	2	.....	.....	1
" Head .....	10	7	3	2	1
Drowned .....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Dysentery .....	5	1	4	.....	1
Epilepsy .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Erysipelas .....	2	1	1	.....	.....
Fever .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
" Congestive .....	2	.....	2	1	.....
" Puerperal .....	2	.....	2	.....	.....
" Remittent .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
" Scarlet .....	44	19	25	3	10
" Typhoid .....	3	2	1	.....	.....
" Typhus .....	4	2	2	.....	.....
Convulsions, Puerperal .....	3	.....	3	.....	.....
Heart disease .....	2	.....	2	.....	.....
Exposure .....	2	1	1	2	.....
Frozen .....	2	2	.....	.....	.....
Hooping Cough .....	1	1	.....	.....	1
Hemorrhage, Lungs .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Inflammation .....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
" Bowels .....	12	5	7	3	2
" Brain .....	2	1	1	1	.....
" Lungs .....	21	9	12	5	3
" Stomach .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Malformation .....	2	1	1	2	.....
Marasmus .....	13	10	3	5	5
Old Age .....	6	3	3	.....	.....
Palsy .....	3	2	1	.....	.....
Partruition .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Premature Birth .....	7	4	3	7	.....
Scrofula .....	2	1	1	.....	1
Small-pox .....	7	3	4	.....	1
Still-born .....	7	5	2	7	.....
Suicide .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Teething .....	1	1	.....	1	.....
Worms .....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Total .....	265	137	128	60	34



DEATHS FROM VARIOUS DISEASES

1851.



DEATHS FROM VARIOUS DISEASES IN EACH MONTH DURING 1851.

RECAPITULATION OF THE TOTAL MONTHLY RETURNS OF DEATHS FOR THE YEAR  
WITH THE SEX AND AGE.

MONTHS.	Total.	Male.		One year and under	1—2	2—5	5—10	10—20	20—30	30—40	40—50	50—60	60—70	70—80	80—90	90—100	100 and over.
		Female.	One year and under														
JANUARY, . . . . .	175	97	78	54	32	15	11	5	13	11	12	8	8	4	2	1	1
FEBRUARY, . . . . .	204	102	102	61	31	25	11	13	19	25	7	1	5	2	1	1	1
MARCH, . . . . .	185	98	87	44	28	16	12	9	19	17	17	8	5	7	2	1	1
APRIL, . . . . .	208	103	105	59	25	36	13	8	21	11	11	4	6	8	1	1	1
MAY, . . . . .	194	98	96	59	12	22	11	14	27	22	12	5	5	5	5	1	1
JUNE, . . . . .	206	107	99	70	22	14	8	17	20	10	10	10	2	1	1	1	1
JULY, . . . . .	290	162	128	137	39	13	14	8	22	19	17	8	7	2	3	1	1
AUGUST, . . . . .	299	155	144	102	70	35	18	14	18	19	12	8	5	2	1	1	1
SEPTEMBER, . . . . .	262	140	122	95	51	19	12	7	21	25	11	6	6	5	4	1	1
OCTOBER, . . . . .	308	153	155	94	53	38	23	11	27	16	15	11	5	8	6	1	1
NOVEMBER, . . . . .	262	144	118	59	41	44	19	17	19	20	16	12	4	9	2	2	2
DECEMBER, . . . . .	265	137	128	60	34	51	16	12	25	22	14	12	8	5	5	1	1
Total . . . . .	2858	1496	1362	894	438	326	169	126	248	227	154	100	72	62	23	8	1

## NUISANCES.

I consider it my duty to enumerate all the causes which had a positive effect in producing the diseases and deaths of the past year, to the intent, that we may be enabled by early attention to efficient cleansing, ventilation, and the use of disinfectants, if not to remove them, at least to mitigate their severity.

The most prominent among these causes, are various nuisances, in the shape of bone boiling establishments, slaughter-houses, cow-stables, piggeries, kitchen garbage, street sweepings, and manure deposits.

These all have tendencies not only to abridge the comfort, but to endanger the health and lives of the community, more especially of the infantile classes. Against all these, strict laws have been enacted, and only requires vigilance on the part of the proper authorities to have them promptly abated.

In reference to *yard* nuisances, there can now be no excuse whatever for not having them immediately removed, by that most approved of all scavengers, the *Pneumatic Machine*; which performs the task in the shortest period, at any season of the year, and with no annoyance to the occupants.

Among other causes of unhealthiness, may also be mentioned the crowding too many families in dwellings badly ventilated. And the letting of underground tenements for living in; fruitful sources alike of disease and immorality.

## SANATORY SURVEY.

I would recommend the institution of annual sanatory surveys of the city—similar to the plan adopted in New York, at the suggestion of that gentlemanly and efficient officer, Dr. White, City Inspector.

To effect this, each ward should be taken separately—names of streets and avenues; each house visited; the class; uses to which

applied ; number of rooms ; means of ventilation ; families and persons residing therein ; condition of the yards and cellars ; names of owners or agents, all to be recorded in books to be kept in this office. This service to be performed by policemen, detached from each district, under the supervision of this department.

Such survey would be of essential benefit in a sanatory reform ; it would furnish an annual census ; expose all nuisances ; lesson the labors of the Board of Health ; and would enable those who wish to purchase or rent, by availing themselves of the reliable information to be thus obtained, to locate in situations desirable either for comfort health or society.

### CITY DISPENSARY.

Of the deaths reported last year, one eighth at least had no professional attendance, or if called in, merely to witness the expiring scene of the patient. A great portion of these were of the emigrant population. The deaths from that noisome disease, small pox, were 65, mostly under ten years of age ; attributable either to neglect of parents in not having their children vaccinated, or to its having been improperly performed.

In view of so large a portion of our youthful population so untimely hurried to their graves, I would respectfully urge for your consideration, the medical wants and requirements of the city. While other departments have been munificently provided for in elegant and substantial buildings, and with conveniences of every description, this department, of at least equal importance, if not entirely overlooked, has been dealt with rather parsimoniously.

I would suggest to your honorable body, the propriety of purchasing a site in the vicinity of the City Hall, and erecting a building thereon, to be designated as the "City Dispensary and Vaccine Institute," with suitable accommodations for all purposes connected with two such noble and beneficial charities. In such a building the trustees of the Dispensary could hold their meetings ; the Medical Society hold their sessions and place their library ; the students of that liberal profession supplied with a room for scientific improvements ; where observations on the weather could be regularly kept ; and where a complete apparatus for the re-suscitation of the recently drowned, could be obtained immediately.

The present Dispensary is a private institution, commenced and sus-

tained by individual donations. And altho' the professional gentlemen, alike talented and respectable, associated therewith, devote so great a portion of their time and services *gratuitously*, for the benefit of suffering humanity ; and by whose skill and assiduity thousands have been relieved and cured ; and for which they are eminently entitled to the plaudits of the community. Yet, if correctly informed, no provision is made for rendering those services at the respective residences of the sick. This last class compose by far the greatest number requiring medical aid. To make suitable provision for such, I would recommend the selection of a junior physician for each ward, at a moderate salary. Indeed it would be unreasonable to expect that professional men should bestow their time and services for any specified object, without remuneration, more than any other class of citizens.

### V A R I O L A, O R S M A L L - P O X.

As an occasional *panic* has occurred, originating from the existence of a few isolated cases of Variola in different localities, I deem it my duty to disabuse the public mind on this subject, and by a statement of facts to allay at least if not entirely suppress unfounded fears and excitement.

This disease is among the oldest on record, and has been one of the greatest scourges of the human race.

In the early part of the last century, the method of communicating it by *inoculation*, was introduced into England from Turkey. Its adoption however, was gradual, attributable to the opposition of both Clergy and Physicians ; the former denouncing it an impious interference with providential dispensation—the latter, that so mild a *form*, and thus produced, could never secure the system :—and though it might answer for a short period, a few years would render it effete, and destroy its preventive qualities. But truth prevailed and was irresistible, inoculation spread not only through the united Kingdom, but over continental Europe; rendering this dreaded disease mild, safe, insusceptible of any future return ; and depriving it in a great measure of its epidemic character.

### V A C C I N A T I O N.

Near the close of the same century, Vaccination, as a *preventive* to Variola, was discovered in England by that great Benefactor, Dr. Jen-

ner. Again opposition reared its head, not by the Clergy this time, for they had seen and believed in the milder dispensation. But exclusively by Physicians, and what is worthy of note, unable to adduce any new points, the same stale, worthless, and exploded arguments were marshalled in array against this substitute for so loathsome a disease. But time has falsified all their predictions, and Vaccination stands in bold relief—one of the greatest blessings ever bestowed on humanity.

In my early practice in this city, then a village, whenever a case of Variola made its appearance, such was my confidence in the efficacy of Vaccination, instead of avoiding the dwelling as a plague spot, I would with the consent of parents take their children into the room, and even to the bed side of the patient—and altho' hundreds were thus exposed, in not a single instance had I cause to regret the issue.

Being a firm believer in the *perpetuity* of Vaccination as a preventive to Variola, I have invariably discountenanced *re-Vaccination*.

In proof of this during the past and previous years, cases of Variola have occurred in families with a number of children, some of whom had been vaccinated beyond the magic period of seven years; and being assured of their having had the genuine Vaccine by the sight of the test marks, declined to experiment; on the contrary would request constant intercourse with the sick; and with the same triumphant results in every case, complete exemption from the exposure.

It may be surmised from my opposition to re-vaccination, that I have never given it a fair trial. Such, however, is not the fact. On the contrary have tested it in numerous instances; and altho' a sore arm, and a general resemblance followed, they proved in the end decided cases of the *spurious* disease. And further, in trials with infection from this source, all attempts to give the real vaccina were complete failures. And I am yet to see the *first* case of a regular, well defined, and distinctively marked disease occurring twice on the same individual.

In further proof of the efficacy of Vaccina, under the most unpromising circumstances, I will adduce the following incidents:

Within a fortnight after a birth of twins, the Mother was taken ill with the Variola in a severe form, as her face sufficiently testifies.—The children were vaccinated immediately; but apprehensive of the result, as soon as a variolous pustule matured, both were inoculated—vaccination succeeded, neither were sick, the one was secured by the operation—the other had some half dozen Varioloid pimples.

On another occasion, a sea captain was brought home in the advanced stage of confluent variola ;—his wife was near her confinement.—On the same floor with the doors open, for she would not consent to have them closed ;—a scene the most heart-rending occurred. The birth-pangs of the one, were responded to by the death groans of the other ; and the same hour witnessed a departure and a deliverance.—The infant was vaccinated, and both mother and child did well.

## V A R I O L O I D .

This disease is of more recent origin than either Variola or Vaccina, being a modification of the former. It is produced by the action of variolous infection on those having been previously vaccinated ; but owing to interruption in its progress, or some constitutional derangement, it assumes the *spurious* form of the disease, thus destroying its efficacy as a complete preventive.

Diseases of the epidemic character may be divided into two classes. The one comprising Cholera, Influenza, Yellow, Typhus and Typhoid Fevers. Individuals taking either of these will not be exempt from future attacks, under similar circumstances. In the other, including Measles, Hooping-Cough, Scarlatina and Variola, the patient having either of these, whether mild or severe, the aptitude in the system is eradicated, and thereby the individual is entirely secured from any future infection.

But like all other rules, these have their exceptions, in the ratio of one to a thousand taking the disease a second time. And altho' neither the Varioloid, which is a modified form of Variola ; nor the Vaccine which is a preventive to both, come under the epidemic class, yet the same rules and exceptions apply to them also.

And the only reason which can be assigned for this constant dread and panic of Variola is that the *exceptions* are blazoned forth ; while the *rule* constituting them is entirely overlooked, forgotten, or mis-represented.

I can speak with some confidence on this subject, having in the course of my practice, vaccinated at least four thousand. As it is impossible to state results in so many cases, it might be considered arrogant to express any decided opinion ; but this much can with truth be asserted, that as yet, *only three cases of Varioloid* have come under my personal observation of those vaccinated by myself—and they had it mildly.

Indeed were I a believer in the *necessity* for re-vaccination, then, no longer trifling with the lives of human beings, I would abandon the practice, and resort forthwith to inoculation ; and if Physicians would act with candor, and neither directly nor indirectly indulge parents in this needless apprehension, altho' it might deprive them of a few ledger items, it would have a salutary effect in removing all doubts in reference to this invaluable preventive.

And were our wise Solons, instead of disputing whether a man shall drink one glass or thirty gallons,—about canal lettings and hard pan—and worse than all, indirectly sanctioning murder by the encouragement of quackery—to adopt the legislation of the Swedes and Prussians, the *Variola* which victimizes its thousands in this State annually, would ere long be among the diseases that were—known only in nosological arrangements.

As it is, would it not be commendable for the second city of the Empire State to set the noble example—and pass such laws as would meet the necessity of the undertaking.

## DUTY AND PENALTY OF PHYSICIANS.

The law organizing the Board of Health, declares that, “ Every person practising physic in this city, who shall have a patient sick with any *malignant, infectious, or contagious* disease, shall make and file a written certificate of such case, at the office of the Board of Health ; and whoever neglects, violates, or refuses to comply, shall be punished by a fine of \$250, or imprisonment for six months, or both.”

Doubtless this was intended to apply only in the fact of the existence or prevalance of an *epidemic* ; and had the framers of this section taken medical advice for their guidance, such would have been its wording. As it now stands, it is alike absurd and despotic. In the above category is included every case of a malignant, infectious, or contagious character. To exhibit its absurdity, not less than fifteen diseases, many of them perennial, must be reported, or arbitrary fine and imprisonment follow. In view of the glaring inconsistency of the law, with the object to be obtained, I would recommend such alterations as would meet the exigency.

## REGISTRATIONS AND CERTIFICATES.

Altho' laws have been passed for the registration of all marriages and births throughout the state, they have not been complied with in a

single instance in this city. On the contrary, many of our physicians estimating it sufficiently onerous to furnish even the regular certificates of diseases terminating in death, performing this part of their *duty* in too negligent a manner. Simple and printed forms of certificates have been generally distributed, and to be obtained at any time on application at this office, yet at least half of these returns are made on scraps of paper, at times scarcely legible.

It is to be desired that medical gentlemen, with a due regard to candor, as well as to public consideration, will be more particular on this point.

## REGISTER OF DEATHS.

Complete statistics of mortality in our city, have been kept for only four years, and part of a fifth.

In 1848 there were deaths	-	-	-	2,095
“ 1849 do do -	(650 by cholera)	3,052		
“ 1850 do do -	-	-	-	2,055
“ 1851 do do -	-	-	-	2,858

It will thus be seen the deaths of the last year exceed those of the preceeding, by an average of 800; attributable in part to increase of population, and influx of emigrants; but full as much to the loose manner in which permits for interment were granted. The Mayor, each member of the Common Council, clerk, messenger, clergy and sextons, all took upon themselves the responsibility of issuing them. The result was that in many instances, neither certificates nor permits were ever returned to this office.

The past year no permits were granted either for burials or disinterments, unless officially signed, except occasionally by his Honor the Mayor; and it can with confidence be asserted that very few deaths have taken place in the city, without their registration on the books of this office.

## DEATH'S DOINGS.

There were one hundred and twenty-one outlets to human life, in the diversified forms of disease and other causes during the past year.

The greatest mortality was by Consumption, a disease which destroys at least one-sixth of the human family. The number of deaths were 291; all these were given as reported, though a great portion

of them were undefined—for instance, the greatest part were stated as Consumption simply; others of the Liver, Bowels, &c., and too many were under the usual age for the appearance of this disease—not that the younger classes are exempt, but instances are rare of regular pulmonary Consumption under the age of 15 years. With all these allowances, the average is that only one death in nine was produced by that scourge of vitality.

And here again I would remind and urge Physicians to be more particular in their future returns, and designate every case whether pulmonic or not. And this the more especially, as efforts are unceasingly made to disparage our city in public estimation, in this its *only* vulnerable point, presuming from our exposed position, that residences here must be highly unfavorable to affections of the breathing organs but which by investigation will be found difficult to substantiate.

### CEMETRIES.

There are two cemeteries where burials are permitted in this city, Greenwood and Wallabout. The latter is filling rapidly, there being no other place to inter the poor, or those with scanty means. I would recommend the purchase of grounds for general burial purposes: and would further suggest the disintering and removal of bodies from all the remaining grave yards, where burials have been prohibited for some time past. Such removal would have a salutary effect not only on the present, but more particularly on the future health of our city; for it is a fact which cannot be disputed, that epidemics in the older cities of Europe, and which as it were depopulated entire localities, have in almost every instance been traced to these sources.

By this procedure we would have a city for the living:—and in imitation of nature, producing the separation, would also have a city exclusively for the dead in our rural cemeteries.

Having no reliable data by which to estimate our *mortal statistics* with those of other cities, of course no correct comparison can be formed. Nevertheless, I trust this Report will furnish satisfactory evidence, that Brooklyn, unsurpassed in the natural advantages of pure air, elevated location, and the best of drinking-water;—improved, with wide streets, spacious avenues, elegant dwellings, splendid Churches, and unrivaled Greenwood; will be entitled to a prominent rank among the healthiest cities in the Union.

Respectfully,

M. WENDELL,

HEALTH OFFICER.

